

## LOVE OF CHILDREN.

From the London Saturday Review.

Of all the qualities for which a human being can be admired, perhaps there is none that strikes us as more thoroughly amiable than a love of children. If it were possible to construct a moral saccharometer for measuring the degree of inherent sweetness in a man's nature, we should probably discover that it varied almost directly as the sympathy which he felt for very young infants. Human beings have—fortunately or unfortunately, as the case may be—developed no peculiarity more decisively as civilization advances than a power of concealing their feelings. Bitter experience has taught them to be scrupulously reticent in the matter of infants. Were it not for that circumstance, we might obtain a very fair estimate of the amiable propensities existing in various persons by presenting to them a baby under six months old, and observing how they were affected by it. The most sensitive would have their benevolent affections raised to boiling-point, whilst the more stolid would sink far below zero. And yet, admitting this as a fact of experience, we may perhaps ask without offense whether there is any justification for the sentiment on grounds of pure reason. Why should we be called upon to love a small lump of fat and gristle with an infinitesimal infusion of soul rather than a fully developed human being? Some people might answer that a child is more innocent than a grown-up man, and in one sense of the word this is undoubtedly true, but it is in the sense in which innocence ceases to be a recommendation. We do not admire an idiot because he has not maintained any theories destructive of all genuine religion, or even a rich man because he has not shown any marked propensity to steal. Innocence is good in so far as it implies a resolute resistance to temptation; but if the innocent person is altogether beyond the reach of any temptation, he so far ceases to be interesting. A baby has not shown a marked propensity for spiritual liquors; but then it has been reduced to a Hobson's choice in regard to its consumption of food; it has not displayed homicidal tendencies, but it has abstained from committing murder for the best of all possible reasons. To love any one for a pure negative, for not being malevolent when he or she is equally free from benevolence, seems to imply a palpably erroneous inference. And therefore, so far as the sentiment is to be estimated by its accordance with reason, the baby-hater would seem to have just as good a justification as the baby-lover, and the only sensible frame of mind would appear to be a complete indifference to these rough draughts of humanity. We should wait till the features become more pronounced, and till we can tell whether the soft mass of breathing and moving flesh and blood is more likely to develop into a Nero or a St. Paul.

Another form of the argument is, that we ought to be more affected by the sight of infant suffering. That we are in fact more easily moved is undeniable; the sight of a starving child, or even of a child afflicted by some purely trifling sorrow, is undoubtedly more affecting than that of a grown-up man suffering far more serious calamity. And yet again we must ask whether this sentiment can be justified in cold blood? A child, it is said, has done nothing to deserve the agonies of hunger under which it is suffering. But who can say whether a grown-up man deserves the pain a bit more fully? Take an unlucky pauper, gradually sinking under ill-treatment till he becomes the subject of a sensation paragraph in the newspapers. Why should we care for him less than for one of the wretched infants who are gradually put out of the way in a baby-farming establishment? He deserves it, it may be said; but how? Was he ever brought up to understand the duty he owes to mankind? Was he ever brought up to be industrious, or prudent, or independent? So far as we can tell, he is the victim of external circumstance just as much as the helpless infant which he resembles, before it has had the opportunities of learning which have never come to its elders. Why should we be less moved when the tragedy has been protracted over sixty years, instead of being acted within a tenth part of the same number of months? If anything, our sympathies should be due rather to the victim of defective social arrangements who has suffered longest and been most fully conscious of his misery. Yet, as a fact, most people would feel far more deeply moved, and we should generally admit that they ought to be more deeply moved, by the story of tortures inflicted upon helpless infants than by that of much greater tortures inflicted upon adults who in all but name are equally helpless for all practical purposes. If it is amiable to feel more strongly in proportion to the degree in which a sufferer is incapable of sharing our thoughts and responsibilities, why should we draw the line at infants? The range which we give to our sympathies seems to be strangely capricious. Sensible people are fond of a child as soon as it begins to talk intelligibly, but do not care much for children who are below or above that limit. A boy of ten or eleven is a noxious being in the eyes of many who are profoundly affected by the sight of a child just able to totter about on uncertain limbs. More amiable people go a little further, and are fond even of an infant in arms; but then, for the most part, they draw a hard and fast line between children and monkeys. Why, if we are profoundly touched by the attempts of a child to imitate grown-up people, by the

fragments of his dream of human life, Shaped by himself with newly-learned art, should we be simply disgusted when our poor relations try to do the same thing? A monkey, with a grotesque appearance of being little lower than a negro, fills many benevolent people with intense repugnance; the infant, who has yet developed scarcely any faculties that it does not possess in common with the lower animals, affects them to tears by similar indications of nascent intellect. Sympathy does not seem to increase in any intelligible ratio to the resemblance of its object to ourselves. We are delighted with a baby because it is like us; we are disgusted with a monkey because it is like us in a slightly inferior degree; and we are pleased again with a dog because it shows some traces of an intellect such as our own, though at a still more remote distance. How are we to discover a formula which will account for these vagaries of feeling, and show why the successive terms of a continuous series produce alternately loathing and delight?

We might possibly, if it were worth while, suggest some reasons for the phenomenon; but there is at least one which will scarcely bear inspection. We are not biased by the intrinsic merits of the animal. Lord Palmerston produced much scandal and a good deal of amusement by promulgating the heretical theory that all people are born good. Without discussing the theological bearings of this doctrine, we may at least say that it will hardly bear inspection from a scientific point of view. Rudimentary vices are as conspicuous in little children as rudimentary virtues. Let anybody observe candidly a

child of two or three years old. There is scarcely any defect which it would not be possible for an unprejudiced person to discover. Such a child may be benevolent, courteous, and conscientious according to its little lights. But certainly it is also very apt to be sensual, selfish, and spiteful, and to show these qualities with a frankness which generally disappears in later life. It is greedy without blushing; it will appropriate the belongings of its little brothers and sisters with the utmost coolness; and it will tell lies as soon as it begins to discover what is the use of language. Painters generally please themselves by portraying infant saints and martyrs; but if they were anxious to indulge in realistic representations they would have no trouble in finding models for infant Judases, Cains, or Sapphiras. We generally excuse the misdeeds on the ground that our infant darlings know no better; but, if we insisted on strict impartiality, the same argument would take all the merit out of their virtues. Children, indeed, sometimes develop the failings of an advanced civilization with a precocity which is rather amusing. Thackeray, from whom nobody was a greater lover of children, somewhere relates an instructive anecdote. Half-a-dozen children are playing with a puppy, and manufacturing mud-pies. To them enters a companion, and exclaims, "Mary Jane, your sister has found a penny." Straightway the puppy is put down as if it were so much dress, the mud-pies are abandoned, and the little band of courtiers gathers round the infant millionaire and accompanies her to the apple-stall. Were not these infants in course of preparation—if only the Fates were propitious—to appear in some future Book of Snobs?

## SMALL-POX IN NEW JERSEY.

An Alarming State of Affairs in Orange—A Sensation in Newark.

In the pretty town of Orange, five miles distant from Newark, the absorbing topic of conversation just now is small-pox and its alarming spread. In the place, as in Newark, there is a law requiring all persons stricken down with the disease to be reported by the physician to the health authorities, but as in Newark, they do as they please, and they do not please to report. The cases that are reported are entered in a book, and this is kept under lock and key from the lynx-eyed newspaper reporters, lest they might publish the facts and do what the board does not do—give people proper warning as to the locality of the disease, and how to avoid coming in contact with it. As it is people in an indestructible state of dread, imagining that matters are ten times worse than is really the case.

The town authorities of West Orange are taking great pains to keep the disease from spreading in their limits. A hospital has been provided, and vaccination provided for and ordered in every proper case. Newark, too, is still agitated about the epidemic. Yesterday one Patrick Murphy turned up in the office of the Mayor of the Poor in quest of alms. At a glance it was discovered that he was covered with small-pox sores. He stated that he had come from Belleville in a horse-car crowded with people, and that he was in search of a doctor. A further statement at a week ago he emigrated to New Jersey from New York. He was promptly removed to the Small-pox Hospital and his companions marched back to the metropolis. The greatest anxiety is felt in Newark and Belleville to know which car it was they rode in.—*N. Y. Herald, to-day.*

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT.

PHILADELPHIA, May 9, 1871.  
The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the capital stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash, on and after May 30, 1871.

Blank powers of attorney for collecting dividends can be had at the office of the company.  
The office will be open at 9 A. M., and close at 3 P. M., from May 30 to June 2, for the payment of dividends, and after that date from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.  
THOMAS T. FIRTH, Treasurer.

TO HOLDERS OF OHIO STATE STOCKS.  
Notice is hereby given that the interest due upon the Bonds of the State of Ohio, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank, in the City of New York, from the 1st to the 15th proximo, and thereafter at our office in this city.

The transfer books will be closed for one month from the 15th inst.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 12, 1871. [617 lm]  
JAMES H. GOODMAN, Auditor of State.  
ISAAC R. SHERWOOD, Sec. of State.  
FRANCIS B. BOND, Attorney-General.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

COLUMBIA, S. C., June 1, 1871.

The interest maturing July 1, 1871, upon the Bonds of the State of South Carolina, will be paid in gold on and after July 1, at the Banking House of H. H. Kimpton, Financial Agent of the State, No. 9 Nassau street, New York, and at the South Carolina Bank and Trust Company, in Columbia.

The interest maturing upon Registered Stock at that time will be paid at the Treasury Office only.

617 305 NILES G. PARKER, State Treasurer.

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS SPLENDID Hair Dye is the best in the world, the only true and perfect Dye. Harmless—Reliable—Instantaneous—no disappointment—no ridiculous tints—“Does not contain lead nor any Poisonous or injurious substance.” Invigorates the Hair and leaves it soft and beautiful. Black or Brown.

Sold by all Druggists and Dealers. Applied at the Factory, No. 16 BOND STREET, NEW YORK. [4 21 mwt]

STATE OF ILLINOIS, TREASURER'S OFFICE.

SPRINGFIELD, May 28, 1871.

The interest which will become due upon Stock of the State of Illinois on the first Monday of July, 1871, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank, in the City of New York, from the 1st to the 15th inclusive of July proximo.

ERASME N. RATES, State Treasurer.

617 1m

FILES.—DR. GUNNELL DEVOTES HIS time to the treatment of Files, blood, bleeding, or itching. Hundreds of cases deemed incurable without an operation have been permanently cured. Best city reference given. Office, No. 31 N. ELEVENTH STREET. [4 15 m]

DISPENSARY FOR SKIN DISEASES, No. 216 S. ELEVENTH STREET.

Patients treated gratuitously at this institution daily at 11 o'clock. [1 14]

JOUVEN'S KID GLOVE CLEANER restores soiled gloves equal to new. For sale by all druggists and fancy goods dealers. Price 25 cents per bottle. [11 25 mwt]

DR. F. R. THOMAS, No. 713 WALNUT ST., formerly operator at the Cotton Dental Rooms, devotes his entire practice to extracting teeth without pain, with fresh nitrous oxide gas. [11 15]

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They have 30 years to run, bear Seven and Three-tenths per cent. gold interest (more than 8 per cent. currency), and are secured by first and only mortgage on the ENTIRE ROAD AND ITS EQUIPMENTS, and also, as fast as the road is completed, on 25,000 acres of land to every mile of track, or 500 acres for each \$1000 Bond. They are exempt from U. S. tax; principal and interest are payable in gold. Denominations—Coupons, \$100 to \$1000; Registered, \$100 to \$10,000.

Northern Pacific 7-30's are at all times receivable, at TEN PER CENT. ABOVE PAR, in exchange for the Company's lands, at their lowest cash price.

The proceeds of all sales of lands are required to be devoted to the repurchase and cancellation of the First Mortgage Bonds of the Company. The Land Grant of the Road exceeds Fifty Million Acres in the most fertile portion of the Northwest, and the demand for the Company's lands for settlement already exceeds the ability of the Government to complete the surveys. This immense Sinking Fund will undoubtedly cancel the principal of the Company's bonded debt before it falls due.

Holders of U. S. Five-twenties, who wish to convert them into a first-class railroad security, can do so at a present profit of about 12 per cent., while increasing their interest income nearly one-fourth, by exchanging them for Northern Pacific 7-30's. All marketable stocks and bonds will be received in exchange, free of express charges, at their highest current price. Full information, maps, pamphlets, etc., will be furnished on application to any agent for the loan, or to

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Interest Payable April and October, Free of State and United States Taxes.

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The Road is now rapidly approaching completion, with a large trade in COAL, IRON, and LUMBER, in addition to the passenger travel awaiting the opening of this greatly needed enterprise. The local trade alone is sufficiently large to sustain the Road.

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